



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Folsom Field Office
63 Natoma Street
Folsom, CA 95630
www.blm.gov/ca/folsom



EA Number: CA-180-08-51

Serial Number: CACA 49644

Proposed Action: Pirrello Water Pipeline Right-of-Way

Location: Section 19, T. 10 N., R. 10 E., MDM; El Dorado County

Applicant: Jeff Pirrello

1.0 Purpose of and Need for Action

1.1 Need for Action

The applicant needs the subject right-of-way (R/W) in order to construct a 12' treated water pipeline from the nearest EID main to the private property he is developing off of Shingle Springs Drive in the Rescue area. Pirello owns two parcels land, APNs 319-030-12 and -20, totaling 45.6 acres. The parcels adjoin the western boundary of a 43 acre BLM parcel. On the east side of the BLM land, there is a residential development of occupied 5 acre parcels, accessed by Little Brush Ridge Road and provided with water by an EID main which runs along that road. Between two of the parcels along BLM's eastern boundary, there is a 56'-wide road and PUE, leading from the BLM land to Little Brush Ridge Road; this PUE has never been developed. It is Pirello's plan to tap into the EID main at the intersection of Stones Throw and Little Brush Ridge Roads, and to run his water pipeline west up the undeveloped PUE, then through the BLM land to his parcel. The proposed pipeline would have the capacity to provide water not only for Pirrello's 45-acre development (five to nine lots), but would also make treated EID water available for many other parcels in the vicinity. Pirello would have the pipeline constructed to EID specs, and once it was accepted, EID would take over maintenance and operation of the line. There is no feasible way to pipe water into this area except by crossing the BLM land.

The applicant has legal and physical access to the subject BLM parcel through the PUE up to BLM's eastern boundary and by virtue of his fee ownership along BLM's western boundary.

1.2 Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plans

The proposed action is subject to the 2008 Sierra Resource Management Plan (RMP). This plan has been reviewed to determine that the proposed action conforms to the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5.

2.0 Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.1 Proposed Action

The proposed action is to construct, to EID standards, a 12"-diameter treated water buried pipeline across approximately 800' of BLM land. Although R/W width is 25', overall width of disturbance for

the construction (width of clearing and grading) would probably average approximately 20'. Terrain for the new construction is an east-facing hillside with an average gradient of 19%. Trench dimensions, bedding, and cover would be as per EID specs.

The proposed right-of-way would be +/-800' long by 25' wide, encompassing approximately 0.46 acres of public land.

This right-of-way would be for a term of 30 years, renewable, and would be subject to applicable policy or program requirements and prior existing rights.

2.2 Project Design Features

Trench backfill, R/W rehabilitation, and slash disposal will all conform to BLM standards, minimizing erosion hazard. See the attached "Exhibit B, Stipulations".

2.3 No Action

The no action alternative would be to not issue a R/W or allow the pipeline construction. In this case, the applicant would not be able to get the water necessary for County approval for his subdivision

3.0 Affected Environment

The proposed right-of-way is in the Sierra Foothills at an elevation of 1290-1440' elevation on the east side of a north-south trending ridge. Water resources are not present in the R/W area. Soils are Auburn series. The plant community is mixed woodland (live oak/digger pine), with a substantial chaparral element (toyon, poison oak). Rare plants and wildlife surveys identified no species of interest (see attached report by G. Hinshaw). More details on soils, geology, wildlife and botanical species are contained in a 1996 biological report by Al Franklin, which was prepared for a different project. Rangeland resources are negligible. Forestry resources are not present. Scenic qualities and visual resources have been compromised by intensive rural-residential development east of the BLM land. Recreational values are low due to lack of public access.

A survey for cultural resources was conducted, but no cultural properties were found within the APE (see attached report, J. Barnes). The Shingle Springs Indian Reservation is located off the southeast corner of the BLM parcel. They were notified of the proposed action on March 7, 2008, but did not respond. Follow-up phone calls on April 7 and 8 went unanswered.

4.0 Environmental Effects

The following critical elements have been considered for this environmental assessment, and unless specifically mention later in this chapter, have been determined to be unaffected by the proposal: air quality, areas of critical environmental concern, prime/unique farmlands, floodplains, water quality, threatened or endangered species, hazardous waste, cultural resources, native American concerns, wetlands and riparian zones, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness, invasive, nonnative weeds, and environmental justices.

4.1 Impacts from the No Action Alternative

Impacts to resources described above would not be expected from the no action alternative.

4.2 Impacts from the Proposed Action

Approximately 0.4 acres of native vegetation (brush and ground cover) would be removed during clearing and grading activities; large trees would be avoided by routing around. The alignment for construction was selected specifically to avoid impact to blue oaks. Compliance with BLM, EID, and county standards for construction and design will help reduce the risk of pipeline related erosion to small, immeasurable levels. Although a small acreage of common native plants would be affected temporarily, there would still be sufficient numbers of plants outside the project area to ensure that the project would not measurably impact species' ability to persist. Given the narrow width of the R/W, re-invasion from the margins of the R/W should be fairly rapid.

One residence is near enough to be affected by the temporary dust and noise of construction. The amount of additional area-wide impacts generated by a five-to-nine-lot new subdivision would be negligible.

4.3 Cumulative Impacts

Erosion, rare plants, and cultural resources are not expected to be impacted at the site specific scale. Therefore, cumulative impacts at a larger scale are not expected. The project is not expected to cumulatively contribute to dust and noise because these construction-related impacts would be very short term and there are no other known similar activities expected to occur at the same time in the nearby vicinity that could conceivably combine to constitute a considerable cumulative impact.

5.0 Agencies and Persons Consulted

5.1 BLM Interdisciplinary Team

- Dean Decker, Rights-of-Way, and EA Writer
- James Barnes, Cultural Resources
- Graciela Hinshaw, Biological Resources

5.2 Availability of Document and Comment Procedures

The EA, posted on Folsom Field Office's website (www.blm.gov/ca/folsom) under Planning (or available upon request), will be available for a 15-day public review period. Comments should be sent to the BLM at 63 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630 or emailed to us at ca180@ca.blm.gov.

EXHIBIT A

Date:

APR - 9 2008

CACA 49644. Subject R/W, 800 feet long by 25 feet wide, located in Section 19, T. 10 N., R. 10 E., MDM. Map is copy of Shingle Springs 7.5' USGS quad enlarged to approximate scale of 1" = 1000'.

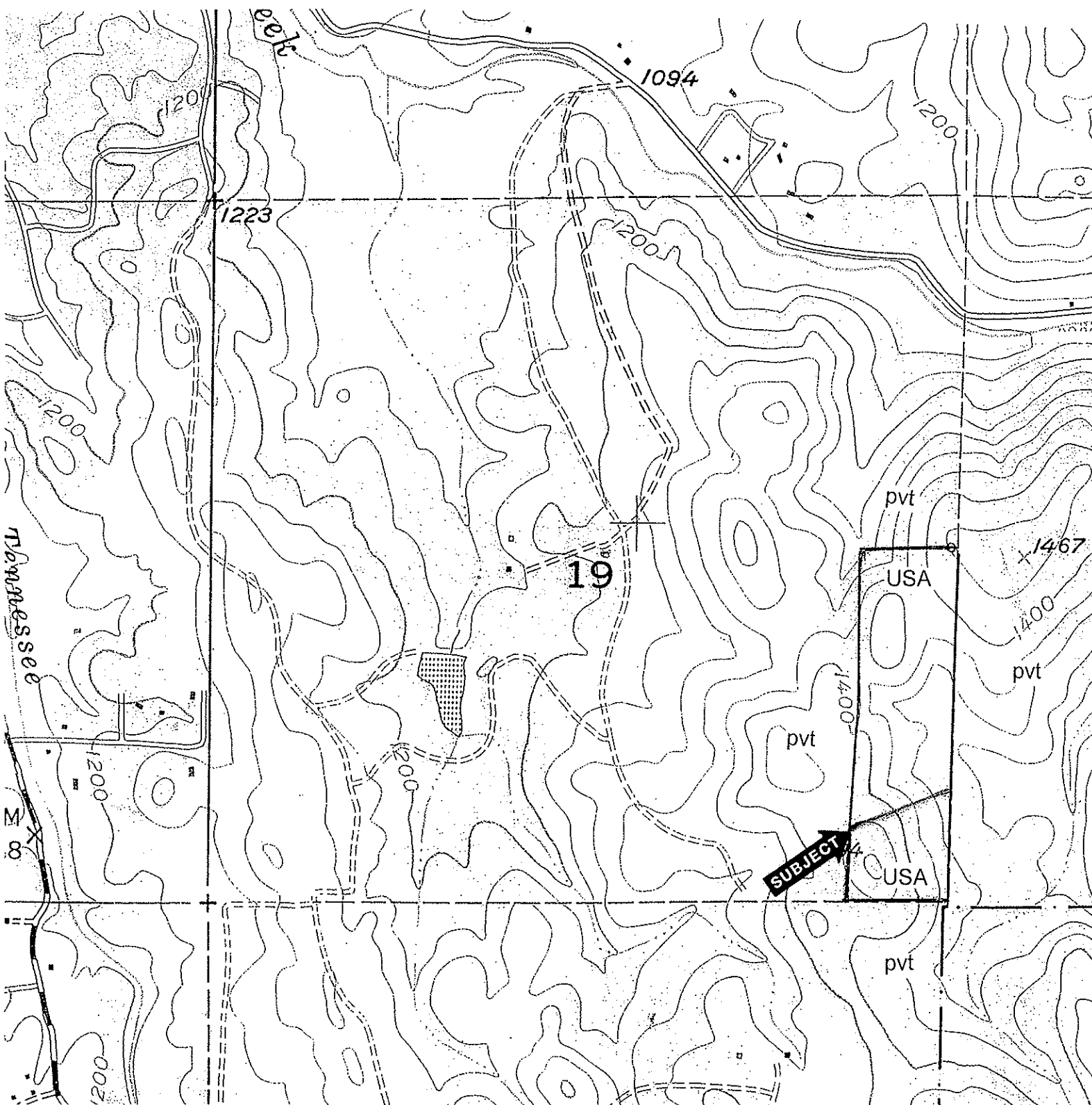


EXHIBIT B

CACA 49644 (2800)

Date:

APR - 9 2008

STIPULATIONS

1. The right-of-way is subject to all valid existing rights.
2. All operations under this grant shall comply with State and Federal laws concerning the use of insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, and other similar substances. These shall be used only in accordance with their registered uses and within the limitations imposed by the Secretary of the Interior. Prior to use of such substances, the holder shall obtain from the authorized officer written approval of a plan showing the type and quantity of substance to be used, pest(s) to be controlled, method of application, location of storage and disposal of containers, and any other information required by the authorized officer. All use of substances shall be in accordance with the approved plan. Approval of the plan will be at the discretion of BLM, and approval may be withheld if the Authorized Officer determines that herbicide use would be inconsistent with the agency's land management objectives.
3. In all operations associated with the use of the right-of-way, the holder shall comply with the relevant provisions of the California Interagency Cooperative Fire Prevention Agreement.
4. Slash generated in the course of clearing vegetation shall be disposed of either by: (1) removal from public land; or (2) lopping and scattering (all slash must be reduced to a size that is within 12" of the ground at all points).
5. Construction sites shall be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials at those sites shall be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to, human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and equipment.
6. The holder shall recontour the disturbed area by removing embankments, backfilling excavations, and grading to re-establish the approximate original contours of the land in the right-of-way.
7. The holder shall construct waterbars on all disturbed areas over 10% slope, to the spacing and cross sections specified by the authorized officer.

8. No trees over 6" dbh shall be removed without the permission of the authorized officer.
9. Prior to removal of any trees having commercial value, the holder will negotiate a timber sale contract with BLM for purchase of the trees.
10. After construction is complete, the holder shall mulch and seed the disturbed area as directed by the authorized officer.
11. Fences, gates, and brace panels shall be reconstructed to appropriate Bureau standards and/or specifications as determined by the authorized officer.

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CA-180.27

March 3, 2008

MEMORANDUM

To: Field Manager

From: James Barnes, Archaeologist

Re: Section 106 compliance for a water pipeline ROW near
Shingle Springs, El Dorado County
(CA-018-S-PE-08/02)

The Folsom Field Office (BLM) is planning to grant a right of way (ROW) for construction of a water pipeline (25 ft wide x 600 ft long) across BLM-administered land near Shingle Springs. On February 28, 2008 BLM ROW specialist/archaeologist Dean Decker and I inventoried the area potentially affected by construction of the pipeline. We found no cultural properties within the undertaking's area of potential effects (APE). Of note, a 1950s-1960s era house site was found nearby, outside of the APE. I have recorded it and assigned it the BLM number PE-300. We are consulting with members of Shingle Springs Rancheria to determine whether they would like to comment on the undertaking. So far, no Native American traditional cultural properties or sacred sites have been identified. Pending a Native American response, the undertaking, as proposed, would not affect significant cultural properties, and the finding of "no properties" would complete BLM's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, pursuant to our statewide Protocol Agreement.

James Barnes

United States Department of the Interior
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March 3, 2008

LETTER TO FILE

SUBJECT: Section 106 compliance for a water pipeline ROW near Shingle Springs, El Dorado County

PROJECT: Water pipeline ROW near Shingle Springs

REPORT #: CA-018-S-PE-08/02

DATE(S) COMPLETED: March 3, 2008

TYPE OF SURVEY: Class III

CULTURAL PPROPERTIES PRESENT: None

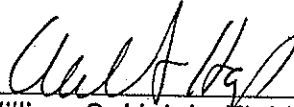
ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES: None

DETERMINATION OF EFFECT: N/A

SHPO CONSULTATION/SECTION 106 STEPS COMPLETED: all

DISCUSSION: This letter to the file documents that I have reviewed the above listed Cultural Resource Inventory Report. Pursuant to the Protocol Agreement (2007) between BLM California and the State Historic Preservation Officer, I affirm that all necessary steps have been taken to identify, record, and determine effects on cultural properties with the undertaking's area of potential effects. This report has been completed by an approved staff specialist and is in accordance with all standards and guidelines as outlined in the Protocol Agreement (2007).

I concur with the findings of this analysis.



William S. Haigh, Field Manager (CA-180)

3-4-08

Date

Bureau of Land Management
Folsom Field Office

Botanical/Wildlife Inventory Report

Project Name: Shingle Springs Pipe Line

Project Description: Surveys were conducted along an 870' long and 50' wide band for a proposed pipe line project. Botanical and wildlife features were recorded along the within the band area.

Project Location: The BLM parcel located in Shingle Springs, California (Sec. 19, T10N, R10E, MDM). Map attached.

Plant Community/Vegetation: Mostly black oak/grey pine forest, with pockets of Northern mixed chaparral intermixed. Photos attached.

CNDDDB records: none.

Inventory description: walking along the proposed pipe line, observing plants and animal signs within an area at least 25' wide on each side along the flagged route. Recording of plant and animal features and documenting survey data with photos and geographical positioning system.

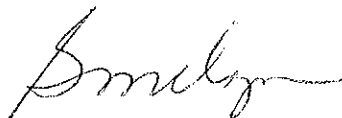
Plants: no sensitive plant species were observed within the project area at the time of survey. Trees and shrubs present in the area included black oak, grey pine, poison oak, chamise, white leaf manzanita, and buckeye. Herbaceous species included *Galium* spp., *Erodium* spp., *Crassula* spp. and *Chlorogalum* spp.

Animals: Deer (6 does were observed in the area), Alligator lizard, medium size mammal den and several unidentified singing birds. Photos attached.

Date of Survey(s): April 3, 2008

Name/Title: Graciela Hinshaw/ Pine Hill Preserve Manager

Signature:



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